(b) whether his Ministry has taken up this matter to place these two local bodies under his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) The issue of transfer of administrative control of MCD/NDMC to Ministry of Urban Development has been raised from time to time and the last proposal was taken up with the Ministry of Home Affairs in January, 1999. However, there is no fresh proposal at present for transfer of MCD and NDMC under the control of Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation.

Reason for delay in Metro Rail in Delhi

4936. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) failed to keep its promise to roll out first metro on April, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the progress made in the project, so far, and by when, it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Commencement of metro train operation on Shahdara-Tis Hazari section of Delhi Metro Phase-I Project, which was initially planned for March, 2002, has been rescheduled for December, 2002.

(b) Delay has been due to delay in finalising some of the international contracts.

(c) Physical progress for the total Delhi MRTS Project Phase-I achieved upto 31.3.2002 is 27 per cent and for Shahdara-Tis Hazari section upto 31.3.2002 is 65 per cent. The Shahdara-Tis Hazari section is expected to be commissioned by December, 2002 and the entire Phase-I of the Delhi MRTS project by September, 2005.